

Amendments to House Bill No. 15
1st Reading Copy

Requested by Representative Rob Cook

For the House Appropriations Committee

Prepared by Julie Johnson
March 21, 2013 (4:00pm)

1. Title, page 1, line 11.

Following: "GRANTS;"

Insert: "ESTABLISHING A PREFERENCE FOR CERTAIN PROJECTS; AMENDING
SECTION 90-6-811, MCA;"

2. Page 3, line 29.

Following: line 28

Insert: "Section 6. Section 90-6-811, MCA, is amended to read:

**"90-6-811. Priorities for projects -- application of
criteria -- consideration of project attributes -- adjustments
for educationally relevant factors.** (1) In preparing
recommendations to the governor under 90-6-810, the department
shall apply the following criteria to applications for school
facility projects in the listed order of priority giving
preference to school facility projects involving repairs to
existing facilities over projects involving construction of new
facilities:

(a) projects that solve urgent and serious public health or
safety problems or that enable public school districts to meet
state or federal health or safety standards;

(b) projects that ~~provide improvements necessary to bring
school facilities up to current local, state, and federal codes
and standards~~ address deferred maintenance by repairing or
replacing existing building components that are inoperable or
difficult to service or that lack minimum integrity;

(c) projects that enhance a public school district's
ability to offer specific services related to the requirements of
the accreditation standards provided for in 20-7-111;

(d) projects that provide long-term, cost-effective
benefits through energy-efficient design;

(e) projects that incorporate long-term, cost-effective
benefits to school facilities, including the technology needs of
school facilities; and

(f) projects that enhance educational opportunities for
students.

(2) In applying the criteria under subsection (1), the
department shall consider, ~~without preference or priority,~~ the
following attributes of a school facility project application:

(a) the need for financial assistance;

(b) The fiscal capacity of the public school district to meet the conditions established in 90-6-812;

(c) past efforts to ensure sound, effective, long-term planning and management of the school facility and attempts to address school facility needs with local resources;

(d) the ability to obtain funds from sources other than the funds provided under this part; and

(e) the importance of the project and support for the project from the community.

(3) Before making its recommendations to the governor, the department may make adjustments to its ranking of the projects based on the educationally relevant factors established in 20-9-309. Before making any adjustments, the department may consult with the office of public instruction concerning the educationally relevant factors."

{ Internal References to 90-6-811:

90-6-810x 90-6-810x} "

Renumber: subsequent sections

- END -

Explanation - This amendment changes existing statute to give preference in ranking of Quality Schools Facility Grant Program applications to school facility projects that propose to repair existing school facilities over projects that propose construction of new facilities. The amendment will also replace an existing criterion related to codes and standards with a new criterion of eligible projects related to deferred maintenance project; the existing criterion related to codes and standards will be addressed in the criterion related to state or federal health and safety standards. Lastly, the amendment allows preference or priority to be given in the consideration of attributes.